

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 4, 6 through 9, 11 through 17, and 19 through 33 are currently pending in the application.

Claims 5, 10, 14, 18, and 34 have been canceled.

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of May 3, 2004.

35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Anticipation Rejections

Anticipation Rejection Based on Senba et al. (U.S. Patent 6,188,127)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24 through 26, 28, 30, 31 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)(2) as being anticipated by Senba et al. (U.S. Patent 6,188,127).

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Brothers v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

After carefully considering the cited prior art, the rejections, and the Examiner's comments, Applicants have amended the claimed invention to clearly distinguish over the cited prior art.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 6, 11, 15, 19, 22, 25, and 30 to include the subject matter of objected to claims 5, 10, 14, 18, and 34 which have been canceled. Therefore, such independent claims are allowable as well as dependent claims 2 through 4, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, and 33 therefrom.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 23, 27, 29, 32 and 34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As previously set forth, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 6, 11, 15, 19, 22, 25, and 30 to include the subject matter of objected to claims 5, 10, 14, 18, and 34 making such independent claims allowable.

Applicants submit that claims 1 through 34 are clearly allowable over the cited prior art.
Applicants request the allowance of claims 1 through 34 and the case passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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